Strand 2: Writing Elements

This strand focuses on the elements of effective writing. Good writing instruction incorporates multiple performance objectives into an integrated experience of learning for the student. The order of the concepts and performance objectives is not intended to indicate a progression or hierarchy for writing instruction. Instructional activities may focus on just one concept or many.

Concept 1: Ideas and Content

Writing is clear and focused, holding the reader's attention throughout. Main ideas stand out and are developed by strong support and rich details. Purpose is accomplished.

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 1. Use pictures that convey meaning.	PO 1. Write stand-alone text that expresses a clear message.	PO 1. Write stand-alone text that expresses a clear message.
PO 2. Use pictures with imitative text , letters, or recognizable words to convey meaning.	PO 2. Incorporate details in pictures and text.	PO 2. Incorporate relevant details that give the text interest.
PO 3. Use labels, captions, or picture descriptors to expand meaning.		

Concept 1: Ideas and Content

Writing is clear and focused, holding the reader's attention throughout. Main ideas stand out and are developed by strong support and rich details. Purpose is accomplished.

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 1. Express ideas that are clear and directly related to the topic.	PO 1. Express ideas that are clear and directly related to the topic.	PO 1. Express ideas that are clear and directly related to the topic.
PO 2. Provide content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose.	PO 2. Provide content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose.	PO 2. Provide content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose.
PO 3. Use relevant details to provide adequate support for the ideas.	PO 3. Use relevant details to provide adequate support for the ideas.	PO 3. Use relevant details to provide adequate support for the ideas.

Italics denotes a repetition of a performance objective (learned in an earlier grade) that is to be applied to more complex writing.

The bulleted (lettered) items within a performance objective indicate specific content to be taught.

Words shown in bold print are referenced in the glossary.

Arizona Department of Education - Standards Based Teaching and Learning

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 1: Ideas and Content

Writing is clear and focused, holding the reader's attention throughout. Main ideas stand out and are developed by strong support and rich details. Purpose is accomplished.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 1. Use clear, focused ideas and details to support the topic.	PO 1. Use clear, focused ideas and details to support the topic.	PO 1. Use clear, focused ideas and details to support the topic.
PO 2. Provide content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose.	PO 2. Provide content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose.	PO 2. Provide content and selected details that are well-suited to audience and purpose.
PO 3. Develop a sufficient explanation or exploration of the topic.	PO 3. Develop a sufficient explanation or exploration of the topic.	PO 3. Develop a sufficient explanation or exploration of the topic.
PO 4. Include ideas and details that show original perspective.	PO 4. Include ideas and details that show original perspective.	PO 4. Include ideas and details that show original perspective.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 1: Ideas and Content

Writing is clear and focused, holding the reader's attention throughout. Main ideas stand out and are developed by strong support and rich details. Purpose is accomplished.

- PO 1. Maintain a clear, narrow focus to support the topic.
- PO 2. Write with an identifiable purpose and for a specific audience.
- PO 3. Provide sufficient, relevant and carefully selected details for support.
- PO 4. Demonstrate a thorough, balanced explanation of the topic.
- PO 5. Include ideas and details that show original perspective and insights.

Concept 2: Organization
Organization addresses the structure of the writing and integrates the central meaning and natterns that hold the niece together

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 1. Show a clear sense of coordination between text and pictures (e.g., a reader can readily see that they go together).	PO 1. Demonstrate sequencing or patterning in written text or storyboards.	PO 1. Organize content in a selected format (e.g., friendly letter, narrative , expository text). (See Strand 3)
PO 2. Consistently write left to right and top to bottom.	PO 2. Show a sense of beginning (e.g., This is a story of, One day, My favorite food).	PO 2. Use beginning and concluding statements (other than simply "The End") in text.
PO 3. Space appropriately between words with some degree of accuracy.	PO 3. Write multiple sentences in an order that supports a main idea or story.	PO 3. Use signal words (e.g., first, second, third; 1, 2, 3) to indicate the order of events or ideas.
		PO 4. Use transitional words and phrases (e.g., next, then, so, but, while, after that, because) to connect ideas.
		PO 5. Write multiple sentences that support a topic.

Concept 2: Organization
Organization addresses the structure of the writing and integrates the central meaning and patterns that hold the piece together

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 1. Organize content in a selected format. (e.g., friendly letter , narrative , expository text). (See Strand 3)	PO 1. Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g., letter format, narrative , lines of poetry). (See Strand 3)	PO 1. Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g., letter format, narrative , lines of poetry). (See Strand 3)
PO 2. Create a beginning that captures the reader's interest.	PO 2. Create a beginning that captures the reader's interest.	PO 2. Create a beginning that captures the reader's interest.
PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.	PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.	PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.
PO 4. Use transitional words and phrases (e.g., next, then, so, but, while, after that, because) to connect ideas.	PO 4. Use a variety of transitional words that creates smooth connections between ideas.	PO 4. Use a variety of words or phrases that creates smooth and effective transitions.
PO 5. Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.	PO 5. Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.	PO 5. Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.
PO 6. Construct a paragraph that groups sentences around a topic.	PO 6. Construct a paragraph that groups sentences around a topic.	PO 6. Construct a paragraph that groups sentences around a topic.

Concept 2: Organization Organization addresses the structure of the writing and integrates the central meaning and patterns that hold the piece together.		
Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 1. Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g., letter format, narrative , play, essay). (See Strand 3)	PO 1. Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g., letter format, narrative , play, essay). (See Strand 3)	PO 1. Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g., letter format, narrative , play, essay). (See Strand 3)
PO 2. Develop a strong beginning or introduction that draws in the reader.	PO 2. Develop a strong beginning or introduction that draws in the reader.	PO 2. Develop a strong beginning or introduction that draws in the reader.
PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.	PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.	PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.
PO 4. Include effective transitions among all elements (sentences, paragraphs, ideas).	PO 4. Include effective transitions among all elements (sentences, paragraphs, ideas).	PO 4. Include effective transitions among all elements (sentences, paragraphs, ideas).
PO 5. Construct paragraphs by arranging sentences with an organizing principle (e.g., to develop a topic, to indicate a chronology).	PO 5. Construct paragraphs by arranging sentences with an organizing principle (e.g., to develop a topic, to indicate a chronology).	PO 5. Construct paragraphs by arranging sentences with an organizing principle (e.g., to develop a topic, to indicate a chronology).
PO 6. Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.	PO 6. Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.	PO 6. Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 2: Organization

Organization addresses the structure of the writing and integrates the central meaning and patterns that hold the piece together.

- PO 1. Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g., letter format, narrative, play, essay).
- PO 2. Include a strong beginning or introduction that draws in the reader.
- PO 3. Place details appropriately to support the main idea.
- PO 4. Use effective transitions among all elements (sentences, paragraphs, and ideas).
- PO 5. Employ a variety of paragraphing strategies (e.g., topical, chronological, spatial) appropriate to application and purpose. (See R09-S3C1-06, R10-S3C1-06)
- PO 6. Create an ending that provides a sense of **resolution** or closure.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 3: Voice

Voice will vary according to the type of writing, but should be appropriately formal or casual, distant or personal, depending on the audience and purpose.

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 1. Create pictures or text with distinctive personal style and originality.	PO 1. Create pictures and text that is expressive, individualistic, engaging, and lively.	PO 1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice and style.
		PO 2. Write text that is expressive, individualistic, engaging, and lively.

Concept 3: Voice

Voice will vary according to the type of writing, but should be appropriately formal or casual, distant or personal, depending on the audience and purpose.

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Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice and style.	PO1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice and style.	PO1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice and style.
PO 2. Convey a sense of originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to topic and type of writing.	PO 2. Convey a sense of originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to topic and type of writing.	PO 2. Convey a sense of originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to topic and type of writing.
		PO 3. Use language appropriate for topic and purpose.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 3: Voice

Voice will vary according to the type of writing, but should be appropriately formal or casual, distant or personal, depending on the audience and purpose.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice and style.	PO 1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice, style, and an appropriate connection with, or distance from, the audience.	PO 1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice, style, and an appropriate connection with, or distance from, the audience.
PO 2. Convey a sense of identity through originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to the topic and type of writing.	PO 2. Convey a sense of identity through originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to the topic and type of writing.	PO 2. Convey a sense of identity through originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to the topic and type of writing.
PO 3. Use language appropriate for the topic and purpose.	PO 3. Use language appropriate for the topic and purpose.	PO 3. Use language appropriate for the topic and purpose.
PO 4. Choose appropriate voice (e.g., formal, informal) for the audience and purpose.	PO 4. Choose appropriate voice (e.g., formal, informal, academic discourse) for the audience and purpose.	PO 4. Choose appropriate voice (e.g., formal, informal, academic discourse) for the audience and purpose.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 3: Voice

Voice will vary according to the type of writing, but should be appropriately formal or casual, distant or personal, depending on the audience and purpose.

- PO 1. Show awareness of the audience through word choice, style, and an appropriate connection with, or distance from, the audience.
- PO 2. Convey a sense of identity through originality, sincerity, liveliness, or humor appropriate to topic and type of writing.
- PO 3. Choose appropriate voice (e.g., formal, informal, academic discourse) for the application.
- PO 4. Use engaging and expressive language that shows a commitment to the topic.
- PO 5. Use language appropriate to purpose, topic, and audience.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 4: Word Choice

Word choice reflects the writer's use of specific words and phrases to convey the intended message and employs a variety of words that are functional and appropriate to the audience and purpose.

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Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 1. Select labels, captions, or descriptors to enhance pictures.	PO 1. Select words that convey a clear, general meaning.	PO 1. Select words that convey the intended meaning and create a picture in the reader's mind.
PO 2. Use words, labels, or short phrases that clearly go with picture text.	PO 2. Use a variety of words, even if not spelled correctly, to convey the intended message.	PO 2. Use a variety of words, even if not spelled correctly, to convey the intended message.
	PO 3. Use expressive or descriptive phrases and short sentences, beyond one- or two-word labels.	PO 3. Use expressive or descriptive phrases and short sentences, beyond one- or two-word labels.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 4: Word Choice

Word choice reflects the writer's use of specific words and phrases to convey the intended message and employs a variety of words that are functional and appropriate to the audience and purpose.

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 1. Use a variety of specific and accurate words that effectively convey the intended message.	PO 1. Use a variety of specific and accurate words that effectively convey the intended message.	PO 1. Use a variety of specific and accurate words that effectively convey the intended message.
PO 2. Use descriptive words and phrases that energize the writing.	PO 2. Use descriptive words and phrases that energize the writing.	PO 2. Use descriptive words and phrases that energize the writing.
PO 3. Apply vocabulary and/or terminology appropriate to the type of writing.	PO 3. Apply vocabulary and/or terminology appropriate to the type of writing.	PO 3. Apply vocabulary and/or terminology appropriate to the type of writing.
PO 4. Use literal and figurative language in a variety of ways (e.g., imitating, creating new words, rhyming), although may be inconsistent or experimental.	PO 4. Use literal and figurative language in a variety of ways (e.g., imitating, creating new words, rhyming), although may be inconsistent or experimental. (See R04-S1C4-04, -05)	PO 4. Use literal and figurative language where appropriate to purpose. (See R05-S1C4-03, -04)

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 4: Word Choice

Word choice reflects the writer's use of specific words and phrases to convey the intended message and employs a variety of words that are functional and appropriate to the audience and purpose.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 1. Use accurate, specific, powerful words that effectively convey the intended message.	PO 1. Use accurate, specific, powerful words that effectively convey the intended message.	PO 1. Use accurate, specific, powerful words that effectively convey the intended message.
PO 2. Use words and phrases that consistently support style and type of writing. (See R06-S2C1)	PO 2. Use words that consistently support style and type of writing. (See R07-S2C1)	PO 2. Use words that consistently support style and type of writing. (See R08-S2C1)
PO 3. Use vocabulary that is original, varied, and natural.	PO 3. Use vocabulary that is original, varied, and natural.	PO 3. Use vocabulary that is original, varied, and natural.
PO 4. Use literal and figurative language when appropriate to purpose. (See R06-S1C4-04)	PO 4. Use literal and figurative language when appropriate to purpose. (See R07-S1C4-04)	PO 4. Use literal and figurative language when appropriate to purpose. (See R08-S1C4-04)

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 4: Word Choice

Word choice reflects the writer's use of specific words and phrases to convey the intended message and employs a variety of words that are functional and appropriate to the audience and purpose.

- PO 1. Use accurate, specific, powerful words and phrases that effectively convey the intended message.
- PO 2. Use vocabulary that is original, varied, and natural.
- PO 3. Use words that evoke clear images.
- PO 4. Use **literal** and **figurative language** intentionally when appropriate. (See R09-S2C1-02, R10-S2C1-02, R11-S2C1-02, R12-S2C1-02)
- PO 5. Use **clichés** only when appropriate to purpose.

Concept 5: Sentence Fluency Fluency addresses the rhythm and flow of language. Sentences are strong and varied in structure and length.		
Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 1. Attempt simple sentences (some may be fragments).	PO 1. Write simple sentences.	PO 1. Write simple sentences. PO 2. Write sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud. PO 3. Use a variety of sentence beginnings and lengths.

Concept 5: Sentence Fluency Fluency addresses the rhythm and flow of language. Sentences are strong and varied in structure and length.		
Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 1. Write simple and compound sentences.	PO 1. Write simple and compound sentences.	PO 1. Write simple and compound sentences.
PO 2. Write sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud.	PO 2. Write sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud.	PO 2. Write sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud.
PO 3. Vary sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.	PO 3. Vary sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.	PO 3. Vary sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.
	PO 4. Use effective and natural dialogue when appropriate.	PO 4. Use effective and natural dialogue when appropriate.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 1. Write simple and compound sentences.	PO 1. Write simple, compound, and complex sentences.	PO 1. Write simple, compound, and complex sentences.
PO 2. Write sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud.	PO 2. Create sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud.	PO 2. Create sentences that flow together and sound natural when read aloud.
PO 3. Vary sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.	PO 3. Vary sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.	PO 3. Vary sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.
PO 4. Use effective and natural dialogue when appropriate.	PO 4. Use effective and natural dialogue when appropriate.	PO 4. Use effective and natural dialogue when appropriate.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 5: Sentence Fluency

Fluency addresses the rhythm and flow of language. Sentences are strong and varied in structure and length.

- PO 1. Use a variety of sentence structures (**simple**, **compound**, **complex**, **and compound-complex**) and lengths to reinforce relationships among ideas and to enhance the flow of the writing.
- PO 2. Show extensive variation in sentence beginnings, lengths, and patterns to enhance the flow of the writing.
- PO 3. Demonstrate a flow that is natural and powerful when read aloud.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 6: Conventions

Conventions addresses the mechanics of writing, including capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar and usage, and paragraph breaks.

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 1. Write the 26 letters of the alphabet in: a. lower case b. upper case	PO 1. Incorporate conventions into own text, including: a. spacing between words b. spacing between lines c. consistent left-right and up-down orientation d. placement of title	PO 1. Use capital letters for: a. the pronoun I b. the beginning of a sentence c. proper nouns (i.e., names, days, months)
PO 2. Distinguish between upper and lower case letters.	PO 2. Use capital letters correctly for: a. the pronoun I b. the beginning of a sentence c. names	PO 2. Punctuate endings of sentences using: a. periods b. question marks c. exclamation points
PO 3. Use capital letters to begin "important" words, although may be inconsistent or experimental.	PO 3. Punctuate endings of sentences using: a. periods b. question marks c. exclamation points	PO 3. Use commas to punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. dates
PO 4. Use spaces between words.	PO 4. Spell high-frequency words correctly.	PO 4. Use a colon to punctuate time.
PO 5. Write left to right and top to bottom.	PO 5. Use common spelling patterns (i.e., onset and rimes, word families, and simple CVC words) to spell words correctly.	PO 5. Use apostrophes to correctly punctuate contractions.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
PO 6. Use punctuation in writing, although may be inconsistent or experimental.	PO 6. Use basic phonetic spelling of unfamiliar words to create readable text.	PO 6. Spell high frequency words correctly.
PO 7. Use knowledge of letter sound relationship to spell simple words with some consonants and few vowels (e.g., <i>I lik t d nts.</i> – I like to draw knights.)	PO 7. Use resources (e.g., environmental print, word wall, dictionaries) to spell correctly.	PO 7. Use common spelling patterns/ generalizations, including: a. word families b. simple CVC words c. regular plurals d. simple prefixes e. simple suffixes
PO 8. Use resources (e.g., environmental print, word wall) to spell correctly.	PO 8. Use subject /verb agreement in simple sentences .	PO 8. Use phonetic spelling and syllabication to create readable text.
PO 9. Write own name on personal work.	PO 9. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences : a. nouns b. action verbs	PO 9. Use resources (e.g., environmental print, word walls, dictionaries) to spell correctly.
	PO 10. Write own name on personal work.	PO 10. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: a. nouns b. action verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives

Italics denotes a repetition of a performance objective (learned in an earlier grade) that is to be applied to more complex writing.

The bulleted (lettered) items within a performance objective indicate specific content to be taught.

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Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2
		PO 11. Use subject/verb agreement in simple sentences .
		PO 12. Write own name on personal work.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 6: Conventions

Conventions addresses the mechanics of writing, including capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar and usage, and paragraph breaks.

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 1. Use capital letters for: a. proper nouns (i.e., names, days, months) b. titles c. names of places d. abbreviations e. literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem)	PO 1. Use capital letters for: a. proper nouns (i.e., names, days, months) b. titles c. names of place d. abbreviations e. literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem)	PO 1. Use capital letters correctly for: a. proper nouns:
PO 2. Punctuate endings of sentences using: a. periods b. question marks c. exclamation points	PO 2. Punctuate endings of sentences using: a. periods b. question marks c. exclamation points	PO 2. Punctuate endings of sentences using: a. periods b. question marks c. exclamation points

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 3. Use commas to punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. dates	PO 3. Use commas to punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. dates d. introductory words	PO 3. Use commas to punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. dates d. introductory words e. dialogue f. direct address
PO 4. Use quotation marks to punctuate dialogue, although may be inconsistent or experimental.	PO 4. Use quotation marks to punctuate: a. dialogue (although may be inconsistent or experimental) b. titles	PO 4. Use quotation marks to punctuate: a. simple dialogue b. titles
PO 5. Use a colon to punctuate time.	PO 5. Use a colon to punctuate time.	PO 5. Use colons to punctuate: a. time b. business letter salutations
PO 6. Use apostrophes to punctuate: a. contractions b. singular possessive	PO 6. Use apostrophes to punctuate: a. contractions b. singular possessive	PO 6. Use apostrophes to punctuate: a. contractions b. singular possessive
PO 7. Spell high-frequency words correctly.	PO 7. Spell high-frequency words correctly.	PO 7. Spell high-frequency words correctly.

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 8. Use common spelling patterns/generalizations to spell words correctly, including: a. word families b. regular plurals c. r-controlled d. diphthong e. consonant digraphs f. CVC words g. CCVC words h. CVCC words i. affixes	PO 8. Use common spelling patterns/generalizations to spell words correctly, including: a. r-controlled b. diphthong c. vowel digraphs d. CVC words e. CCVC words f. CVCC words g. silent e h. irregular plurals i. affixes	PO 8. Use common spelling patterns/generalizations to spell words correctly, including: a. irregular plurals b. silent e c. i before e d. words ending in -y e. doubling final consonant
PO 9. Spell simple homonyms correctly in context.	PO 9. Spell simple homonyms correctly in context.	PO 9. Spell homonyms correctly in context.
PO 10. Use resources (e.g., dictionaries, word walls) to spell correctly.	PO 10. Use resources (e.g., dictionaries, word walls) to spell correctly.	PO 10. Use resources (e.g., dictionaries, word walls) to spell correctly.
PO 11. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences : a. nouns b. action verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives	PO 11. Use paragraph breaks to indicate an organizational structure.	PO 11. Use paragraph breaks to indicate an organizational structure.

Italics denotes a repetition of a performance objective (learned in an earlier grade) that is to be applied to more complex writing.

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Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
PO 12. Use subject/verb agreement in simple sentences .	PO 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: a. nouns b. action verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. conjunctions	PO 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: a. nouns b. action verbs c. personal pronouns d. conjunctions e. adverbs
	PO 13. Use subject/verb agreement in simple and compound sentences .	PO 13. Use subject/verb agreement in simple and compound sentences .

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 6: Conventions

Conventions addresses the mechanics of writing, including capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar and usage, and paragraph breaks.

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 1. Use capital letters correctly for: a. proper nouns • holidays • product names • languages • historical events • organizations • academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I) • place • regional names (e.g., West Coast) b. words used as names (e.g., Grandpa, Aunt Lyn) c. literary titles (i.e., story, poem, play, song) d. titles e. abbreviations f. proper adjectives	PO 1. Use capital letters correctly for: a. proper nouns holidays product names languages historical events organizations academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I) place regional names (e.g., West Coast) b. words used as names (e.g., Grandpa, Aunt Lyn) c. literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem, play, song) d. titles e. abbreviations f. proper adjectives	PO 1. Use capital letters correctly for: a. proper nouns • holidays • product names • languages • historical events • organizations • academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I) • place • regional names (e.g., West Coast) b. words used as names (e.g., Grandpa, Aunt Lyn) c. literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem, play, song) d. titles e. abbreviations f. proper adjectives

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 2. Use commas to correctly punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. introductory words d. direct address e. interrupters f. compound sentences	PO 2. Use commas to correctly punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. introductory words and clauses d. direct address e. interrupters f. compound sentences g. appositives	PO 2. Use commas to correctly punctuate: a. items in a series b. greetings and closings of letters c. introductory words and clauses d. direct address e. interrupters f. compound sentences g. appositives h. dialogue
PO 3. Use quotation marks to punctuate: a. dialogue b. titles of short works (e.g., chapter, story, article, song, poem) c. exact words from sources	PO 3. Use quotation marks to punctuate: a. dialogue b. titles of short works (e.g., chapter, story, article, song, poem) c. exact words from sources	PO 3. Use quotation marks to punctuate: a. dialogue b. titles of short works (e.g., chapter, story, article, song, poem) c. exact words from sources
PO 4. Use italics (in typed copy) and underlining (in handwriting) to indicate titles of longer works (e.g., books, plays, magazines, movies, TV series).	PO 4. Use italics (in typed copy) and underlining (in handwriting) to indicate titles of longer works (e.g., books, plays, magazines, movies, TV series).	PO 4. Use italics (in typed copy) and underlining (in handwriting) to indicate titles of longer works (e.g., books, plays, magazines, movies, TV series).
PO 5. Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations.	PO 5. Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations.	PO 5. Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations.
PO 6. Use apostrophes to punctuate: a. contractions b. singular possessives	PO 6. Use apostrophes to punctuate: a. contractions b. singular possessives c. plural possessives	PO 6. Use apostrophes to punctuate: a. contractions b. singular possessives c. plural possessives

Italics denotes a repetition of a performance objective (learned in an earlier grade) that is to be applied to more complex writing. The bulleted (lettered) items within a performance objective indicate specific content to be taught.

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Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
PO 7. Spell high-frequency words correctly.	PO 7. Spell high-frequency words correctly.	PO 7. Spell high-frequency words correctly.
PO 8. Use common spelling patterns/ generalizations to spell words correctly.	PO 8. Use common spelling patterns/ generalizations to spell words correctly.	PO 8. Use common spelling patterns/ generalizations to spell words correctly.
PO 9. Use homonyms correctly in context.	PO 9. Use homonyms correctly in context.	PO 9. Use homonyms correctly in context.
PO 10. Use resources to spell correctly.	PO 10. Use resources to spell correctly.	PO 10. Use resources to spell correctly.
PO 11. Use paragraph breaks to indicate an organizational structure.	PO 11. Use paragraph breaks to indicate an organizational structure.	PO 11. Use paragraph breaks to indicate an organizational structure.
PO. 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: a. nouns b. action/linking verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. adverbs f. conjunctions g. prepositions h. interjections	PO. 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: a. nouns b. action/linking verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. adverbs f. conjunctions g. prepositions h. interjections	PO. 12. Use the following parts of speech correctly in simple sentences: a. nouns b. action/linking verbs c. personal pronouns d. adjectives e. adverbs f. conjunctions g. prepositions h. interjections
PO 13. Use subject/verb agreement in simple and compound sentences .	PO 13. Use subject/verb agreement in simple , compound , and complex sentences.	PO 13. Use subject/verb agreement in simple, compound, and complex sentences.

Italics denotes a repetition of a performance objective (learned in an earlier grade) that is to be applied to more complex writing.

The bulleted (lettered) items within a performance objective indicate specific content to be taught.

Words shown in bold print are referenced in the glossary.

Arizona Department of Education – Standards Based Teaching and Learning

Strand 2: Writing Elements

Concept 6: Conventions

Conventions addresses the mechanics of writing, including capitalization, punctuation, spelling, grammar and usage, and paragraph breaks.

High School

PO 1. Use capitals correctly for:

- a. proper nouns:
 - holidays
 - place/regional names
 - languages
 - historical events
 - organizations
 - academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I)
 - product names

- b. words used as names (e.g., Grandpa, Aunt Lyn)
- c. literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem, play, song)
- d. titles
- e. abbreviations
- f. proper adjectives (e.g., German shepherd, Chinese restaurant)

PO 2. Use commas to correctly punctuate:

- a. items in a series
- b. greetings and closings of letters
- c. introductory words, phrases and clauses
- d. direct address

- e. interruptors
- f. compound sentences
- g. appositives
- h. *dialogue*

PO 3. Use quotation marks to punctuate:

- a. dialogue
- b. titles
- c. exact words from sources

PO 4. Use underlining or italics to correctly identify titles and vessels (e.g., ships, spacecrafts, planes, trains).

Italics denotes a repetition of a performance objective (learned in an earlier grade) that is to be applied to more complex writing. The bulleted (lettered) items within a performance objective indicate specific content to be taught.

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Strand 2: Writing Elements

- PO 5. Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations and sentences introducing lists.
- PO 6. Use semicolons to punctuate **compound** and **compound-complex sentences** when appropriate.
- PO 7. Use apostrophes to punctuate:
 - a. contractions
 - b. singular possessives
 - c. plural possessives
- PO 8. Use hyphens, dashes, parentheses, ellipses and brackets correctly.
- PO 9. Spell words correctly.
- PO 10. Use paragraph breaks to reinforce the organizational structure, including dialogue.
- PO 11. Demonstrate control of grammar and usage in writing:
 - a. parts of speech
 - b. verb forms and tenses
 - c. subject/verb agreement
 - d. pronoun/antecedent agreement
 - e. parallel structure
 - f. comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives
 - g. modifier placement
 - h. homonyms
- PO 12. Use appropriate format, according to type of writing, to cite sources (i.e., Chicago, APA, MLA, UPI, any other recognized **style manual**).